1899MNRAS..59..371.

MONTHLY NOTICES

OF THE

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

Vol. LIX. April 14, 1899. No. 7

Professor G. H. Darwin, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

Ernest William Barnes, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge;
Samuel Chatwood, F.R.G.S., Broad Oak Park, Worsley, near Manchester;
Rev. W. B. K. Francis, H.M.S. *Boscawen*, Portland; and
Capt. Windeyer George Lingham, 1 Caldervale Road, Clapham, S.W.,

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

The following Candidate was proposed for election as a Fellow of the Society, the name of the proposer from personal knowledge being appended:—

Frederick Evan Peach, Schoolmaster, 161 Stanstead Road, Forest Hill, S.E. (proposed by J. E. Evans).

Eighty presents were announced as having been received since the last meeting, including, amongst others:—

Astronomici Veteres, Venetiis (Aldus), 1499, presented by W. Arthur Smith; Dunsink Observations, Part VIII., presented by the Observatory; Greenwich Observations, 1896, presented by the Observatory; Moore's Almanac, 1865–94, presented by Rev. S. J. Johnson; Palisa und Bidschof, Katalog von 1238 Sternen,

Downloaded from http://mnras.oxfordjournals.org/ at University of Waterloo on March 18, 2015

© Royal Astronomical Society • Provided by the NASA Astrophysics Data System

1899MNRAS..59..371.

auf Grund der Meridiankreisbeobachtungen der von Kuffner'schen Sternwarte, presented by the authors; Pulkowa Observatory, Ascensions droites moyennes des étoiles principales, par A. Sokolov, presented by the Observatory; H. Struve, Beobachtungen der Saturnstrabanten, presented by the Pulkowa Observatory; Venus Durchgänge, 1874, 1882, Bericht über die deutschen Beobachtungen, Band I., herausg. von A. Auwers, presented by the German Transit of Venus Commission; L. Weinek, Photographischer Mond-Atlas, Heft 4, presented by Professor Weinek.

Observations of Hind's Variable Nebula in Taurus (N.G.C. 1555), made with the 40 inch Refractor of the Yerkes Observatory. By E. E. Barnard.

In *Monthly Notices, R.A.S.* for 1895 June, I have given a historical account of the celebrated variable nebula of Hind (N.G.C. 1555).

This object was discovered by Mr. J. R. Hind 1852 October 11, at Mr. Bishop's Observatory, London, and his original account of the discovery will be found in *A.N.*, No. 839.

When discovered by Hind, and for some years subsequently, this nebula was a conspicuous object in an ordinary telescope, It was seen and measured by D'Arrest, Struve, and Lassell, and was close south, preceding a small star since known as the variable *T Tauri*.

About 1860 the nebula had disappeared in ordinary telescopes, and by 1868 it seems essentially to have also vanished from the largest instruments.

In 1868 Struve found another small nebula 4′ preceding the place of Hind's. This object was afterwards observed by D'Arrest and Tempel. The latter saw this nebula 1877 November 8. It was $1\frac{1}{2}'$ in diameter, with a small star in the northern portion of it. On December 12 of the same year it had disappeared from Tempel's telescope, but two small stars were visible at its place, the northern of which was the one seen on November 8 in the nebula 40″ south, following the centre.

These objects seem to have been neglected after this until the fall of 1890, when Mr. Burnham took up the subject with the 36-inch (*Monthly Notices*, 1890 December, also *Pub. L.O.*, vol. ii., p. 175). I was kindly invited by him to share in the observations.

From the fact that he found *T Tauri* to be the nucleus of a small extended nebula, and that, by a singular coincidence, that star's position in the D.M. was erroneous by a quantity that made it exactly coincide with the position of Hind's nebula, Mr. Burnham concluded the star with its nebulosity was the variable nebula

Downloaded from http://mnras.oxfordjournals.org/ at University of Waterloo on March 18, 2015

© Royal Astronomical Society • Provided by the NASA Astrophysics Data System